## International Union of

## **Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers**

Local No. 1 of Washington

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BRICKLAYERS STONE MASONS CEMENT BLOCK LAYERS TILE SETTERS



MARBLE MASONS TERRAZZO WORKERS POINTER, CLEANERS CAULKERS



September 21, 2012

Mr. Ray Allshouse, Chair Washington State Building Code Council PO Box 41449 Olympia, WA 98504-1449

Mr. Chairman and Council Members:

I am Benny Wright representing the Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local #1 Washington. The masonry industry also employs members of the laborers union. There are over 2,000 Union members working in the masonry trades in Washington State. This is down considerably due to the current state of the construction economy. These are family-wage jobs that would be negatively impacted by proposed Option 1 for the state energy code R and U-values tables for mass walls. We support Option 2 as a more reasonable, incremental approach to energy code change.

Bricklayer man-hours of employment are down substantially over the past three years. We believe this is the wrong time to drastically change the energy code, thereby increasing masonry wall costs considerably. This would a great disadvantage to our industry for very minimal energy savings in typical mass wall commercial buildings.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Benny Wright-